

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend paragraph beginning at page 6, line 25 through page 7, line 6 as follows:

A further desirable characteristic of the forked multi-lobal fibers of the present invention is the orientation of the lobe tips to one another. As shown in FIG. 2A, the maximum distance between adjacent lobes 211 and 212 is along line 213 between point 291 on lobe 211 and point 292 on adjacent lobe 212. Desirably, the maximum distance between adjacent lobes in the forked multi-lobal fibers of the present invention is measurable at a location near the maximum width of each lobe (e.g., point 291 on lobe 211 and point 292 on adjacent lobe 212 are both located on their respective lobe at about a maximum width of each lobe, the ~~maximum~~ maximum width of each lobe being designated by dash lines 293 and 294). Also, dotted line 214 represent lines extending from concave portions 215 between adjacent lobes. Dotted lines 214 extend from inflection points 216. In the forked multi-lobal fibers of the present invention, dotted lines 214 extending from inflection points 216 between adjacent lobes are desirably parallel to one another or divergent relative to one another (i.e., the lines do not cross one another). This ~~particularly~~ particular characteristic of the forked multi-lobal fibers of the present invention also provides improved dullness (i.e., reduced glare).